

Amendment to the drawing figures

Please amend the drawing by substituting the following 2 sheets showing Figs. 3-6 for the single sheet showing Figs. 3-6 as originally submitted. The changes to the drawings made by the substitute sheets are described in the Remarks which follow.

REMARKS**Status of this application**

In the Office Action mailed on February 2, 2005:

- (a) Restriction was required to either the inventions of claims 1-4 or those of claims 5-12. Applicant's undersigned counsel acknowledges that he elected claims 5-12 without traverse in a telephone conference with the Examiner on February 16, 2005. Claims 1-4 have accordingly been withdrawn from further consideration.
- (b) The drawings were objected to as not showing the first and second female outlet recited in claims 5 and 10. Corrected drawings showing a conventional wall socket in Figs. 3 and 5 as described in the specification are submitted herewith as required by the Examiner.
- (c) The title was objected to as not being descriptive. This response substitutes a more descriptive title as required by the Examiner.
- (d) Claims 5 and 6 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Published Application 2001/0030470 by Waugh et al. (hereinafter Waugh). This response requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 5 and 6 for the reasons presented below.
- (e) Claims 7, 10 and 11 were rejected as being directed to subject matter deemed by the Examiner to be obvious in view of Waugh in combination with Ha Patent 6,242,872 (hereinafter "Ha"). This response requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 7, 10 and 11 for the reasons presented below.
- (f) Claims 8, 9 and 12 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

This amendment is being filed after the expiration of the time for response and is accompanied by a Petition to Revive.

The rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on Waugh

Claims 5 and 6 is directed to an arrangement of the kind shown in applicant's Figs. 5 and 6. The arrangement set forth in claim 5 comprises two adapters, the first of which includes two male plugs which are inserted into a conventional two female socket wall outlet in which a first socket receives continuous power from a power source and the second socket receives power via

a wall switch. This first adapter further includes a third female socket which receives a third male plug that connects on one end of a two wire power line that supplies electrical power to an electrically operated device, such as a lamp. Waugh discloses adapters (e.g. the plug-in switches 16 and 216) which provide similar connections between a two socket wall outlet and an electrically operated device, such as the lamp 12,

But the Waugh device works in a different way. Waugh uses an external table switch (18, 218) to control whether or not power is applied to the two wire power line that supplies switched power to the electrically operated device (lamp 12) via the male plug 42 and the relay-switched female socket (28, 228). Power supplied to the lamp via the two wire power line to the lamp is switched on and off by Waugh's plug in switch (16, 216) when either the wall switch (36) or the table switch (18, 218) are operated. Waugh's plug in switch thus supplies switched power to the connected lamp through the two-wire power line, whereas applicant's device provides continuous power to the lamp from the unswitched wall socket. Claim 5 has been amended by this response to clarify that distinction.

Waugh does not describe or suggest a "second adapter" as set forth in claim 5 that includes an electrically operated switch for connecting and disconnecting the electrically operated device (e.g. a lamp) and the two wire power line that supplies electrical power to the device. The Examiner suggests that the switch 218 (seen in Waugh's Fig. 5) can be regarded as such an electrically operated switch. Reconsideration is requested. Switch 118 is a manually operated table switch, and is not actuated by a control circuit in response to a control voltage received via the two wire power line as claimed. Moreover, the switch 218 does not connect and disconnect the two wire power line, rather than connecting and disconnection the lamp and the two wire power line as claimed. Moreover, Waugh does not disclose or suggest means for applying a control voltage to the two wire power line (connecting the lamp and the plug 42) and a control circuit in a second adapter that responds to that control voltage to actuate the claimed electrically operated switch as claimed.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 5 (as amended) and its dependent claim 6 is requested.

The Rejection of claims 7, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Waugh and Ha

Claim 7 is dependent on claim 5, which is believed to be allowable over Waugh for the reasons presented above. Since the secondary reference Ha contains no teaching which would render claim 5 obvious, claim 7 is believed to be patentable for the reasons presented above with respect to claim 5, and for the additional reasons discussed below.

Independent claim 10 sets forth the step of "connecting the male plug at the end of said lamp's existing two-wire power supply line to said first adapter to receive continuous power from said first existing wall socket and to receive a control voltage derived from said switched power received at said second existing wall socket." Waugh does not describe such an arrangement as discussed above and nothing in the Ya teaching would suggest modifying the Waugh plug in switch satisfy the limitations of claim 10 and its dependent claims.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 7, 10 and 11 based on the proposed combination of Waugh and Ya because combining the two teachings would not result in the combination claimed. While Ya does teach the use of a control circuit mounted in a unit having a base 21 that screws into a standard lamp socket and a female socket 22 that receives a standard lamp base 201, the Ya control circuit is entirely self contained and does not respond to any sort of external control circuit. If one of ordinary skill were to combine the teachings of Waugh and Ya, the resulting combination would use the two devices as disclosed; that is, a lamp equipped with the Ya control would be powered by a plug in switch of the type taught by Waugh. The resulting arrangement would not include means for applying a control voltage to the lamp cord to signal when the wall switch was on or off (not shown by either reference) and a control circuit in the lamp adapter that would respond to this control voltage (not shown by either reference). Since important elements of the invention expressly specified in claims 7, 10 and 11 are not disclosed by either reference, there is no basis for concluding that one skilled in the art would combine those two teachings to produce the claimed invention.

Conclusion

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 5 – 7 and 10-11 is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Dated: September 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this *Amendment, an accompanying Petition to Revive, and a credit card payment form* are being transmitted by facsimile to the central facsimile number of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, (703) 872-9306, on September 1, 2005.

Dated: September 1, 2005

Signature 

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